GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2842
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2007
VIOLATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL NORMS IN ORISSA
Nayak Shri Ananta

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the lease holders of iron ore mines around Khandadhar in Orissa are not abiding by the environment norms;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/proposed in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a)& (b) Three mining projects, namely,

(i) Kurmitar Block Iron Mine (Part of Khandadhar Iron Ore Mine) of M/s. Orissa Mining Corporation Ltd.,

(ii) Mahulsukha Manganese Mine of M/s. Aryan Mining and Trading Corporation Pvt. Ltd., and

(iii) Bhutuda Manganese Mine of M/s. AXL Exploration Pvt. Ltd. located within 5 km. radius around Khandadhar in Orissa, are reported to be violating the environmental norms.

None of these projects have been accorded environmental clearance by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India.

(c) Pursuant to the Orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in W.P. (Civil) No. 460 of 2004, Goa Foundation versus Union of India, Governments of all the States and Union Territories have been directed to close down all the units operating in violation of the environmental laws.